

RW

January 13, 2000

Jane Henney, M.D.

Commissioner, Food & Drug Administration
3600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Ms Henney:

Overuse of antibiotics as growth promoters in livestock has been linked to the emergence of antibiotic resistance diseases. Many of the drugs used to enhance growth in chickens, pigs, and cattle are the same as, or closely related to, those used to treat people.

The European Union, fearing a rise in untreatable infectious diseases in humans, has banned all growth-promoting uses of antibiotics used in human medicine. This is truly a must for the US as well. I urge the FDA to follow the EU's lead and move immediately to ban animal uses of growth promoting antibiotics used in human medicine. We could be moving toward a human catastrophe if we do not do so.

Sincerely,

C2614

Q9P-0485

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